



**Plant & Property Committee
Tuesday
22nd June 2010
(Immediately following Works & Planning Meeting)**

Members: Cr M Rutledge
Cr P Dwyer (Chariman)
Cr P Fayle
Cr L Garner
Cr S McRae
Cr D Low
Cr W Sheaffe
Cr J Treloar

AGENDA

1. Bishops Lodge

A Dwyer
GENERAL MANAGER



22nd June 2010

C1 – Bishop’s Lodge Management Committee

REPORTING OFFICER	Allen Dwyer – General Manager
ATTACHMENTS	
FILE NUMBER(S)	

INTRODUCTION

On Thursday evening on the 10th June several Councillors and staff attended a meeting with the Bishops Lodge Management Committee, at the invitation of the Committee, to discuss issues relating to the operation and viability of the iconic precinct.

COMMENTARY

The Conservation Management Plan (copies have been circulated to Councillors) has been finalised and can be used as a base to submit applications for funding for the conservation and interpretation of the Lodge and surrounds. Council staff advised they would be prepared to assist in preparation and submission for the application for grant funds for projects identified in an adopted business plan for the site. The Committee was advised the objectives contained in the CMP could be used as a basis for the preparation of a business plan.

The Committee was advised that grant funds would only be provided for specific conservation or interpretation projects and not for normal operational costs.

The financial statements of the Committee indicate there is a major shortfall in the yearly profit and loss statements to May 12, 2010 which needs to be addressed.

The Committee advised that it had a number of one-off expenses in recent times such as payment of \$20,000 for the preparation of the Conservation Management Plan. It also advised it intended to increase its revenue opportunities by catering for smaller style function at the Lodge over the next twelve months.

As a means of assisting the Bishop’s Lodge Management Committee Council could consider meeting the annual costs associated with water charges, rates, insurances and pest control as a normal landlord expense. These costs currently amount to just under \$10,000. If Council were to meet these costs there would need to be a reduction in expenditure in other areas.

The total subsidy to Bishop’s Lodge Management Committee for 2010 to 2011 would then be \$37,500.

Council could also consider having more representation on the Committee of Management in view of the forecast difficult financial times it is facing for the future. Cr McRae is the sole Council representative on the Committee at present. It is also my opinion that the Committee would benefit from having new members in its composition. Council could consider changing the constitution to require the Council representative to be the Chair.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:-

- a.** consider increasing the annual subsidy to Bishops Lodge to \$37,500;
- b.** consider increasing its representation on the Bishop's Lodge Management Committee.